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1. Name of registrant <b>Québec Government House</b>		2. Registration No. <b>1787</b>
3. Nature of material ( <i>A concise account of the nature of the propaganda material filed</i> )  <b>Political, economic, cultural and touristic news from Québec</b>		
4. Title of material, if any <b>QUEBEC UPDATE, VOL XIV, No. 5 (Atlanta)</b>		5. Name of foreign principal on whose behalf this material was transmitted. <b>Québec Government</b>
6. Means of transmission <b>Mail</b>	7. Dates of transmission <b>May 1993</b>	8. Total copies transmitted <b>200</b>
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Date or dates broadcast shown

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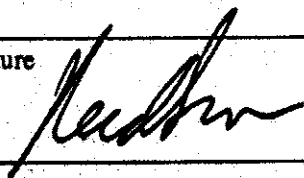
Date of report

Name and title

Signature

6/4/93

Reed Scowen, Delegate General



A newsletter sent to you by the  
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# QUÉBEC



Québec  
Government Delegation  
Atlanta

## UPDATE

Vol. XIV, No. 5, May 1993

### DECISIVE RULING ON CANADIAN-AMERICAN LIVE HOG DISPUTE

The extraordinary challenge committee struck under the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement (FTA) has refuted U.S. allegations and upheld a binational panel's rulings on the countervailing duties the U.S. imposed on Canadian live hog exports in 1988-1989.

International Affairs Minister John Ciaccia and Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Minister Yvon Picotte said that it was a decisive victory for Québec's pork industry. The Québec government and the industry have devoted a great deal of effort to the challenge, mainly to defend the tripartite Canadian farm income stabilization insurance program which the binational panel found was not an unfair subsidy.

The ministers also expressed their satisfaction with the effectiveness of the FTA dispute settlement procedure, which Québec considers one of the Agreement's essential components.

The American government will have to refund Canadian producers between \$8 and \$10 million for duties already levied. The decision has a mitigated effect in Québec. Because of its slaughterhouse network, Québec exports relatively few live hogs. In 1991, it exported 85,000 to the United States out of a total production of 4.6 million.

### INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON

Minister of International Affairs John Ciaccia was in Washington from April 26 to 29 to meet with U.S. Commerce and State Department officials and to make Québec's views on certain issues known. He also met with representatives of the Senate and the House, a U.S. Trade Representative office official and Ms. Eileen Claussen, President Clinton's special assistant for environmental issues.

Mr. Ciaccia's meetings had three main themes: Québec's support for the North American Free Trade Agreement, U.S. market access for Québec products and Québec's role on the international scene.

### SLOW BUT SUSTAINED GROWTH: ROYAL BANK

The Royal Bank thinks that the Canadian economy, supported by significantly increased exports, is well on the way to sustainable growth. Economists with the country's largest bank predicted on April 15 that the gross national product will rise by 3.5% this year and by 4.2% in 1994, well above predictions for other Western countries.

Growth in Québec should be even higher, bank economists said. The Québec economy is expected to grow by 4.0% in 1993 and 4.8% next year.

The Canadian unemployment rate, however, will remain nearly stable this year at 11.1%, a marginal decline of 0.2%, and will drop to 10.5% in 1994. The Royal Bank predicts that unemployment in Québec will decline by 0.4% this year to 12.4%, and will stand at 11.6% next year.

Bank spokesmen indicated that the productivity of Canadian companies had increased considerably in the last year and a half, enabling them to more effectively meet international competition. There was an 11% rise in Canadian commodities exports in 1992.

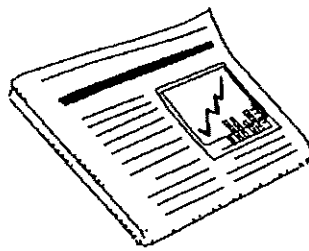
In Québec, the sectors that will perform best in the near future, the economists predict, are aerospace, telecommunications, the pharmaceutical industry, aluminum, metal processing and public transportation equipment.

### **Bell Helicopter Awarded American Army Contract**

Bell Helicopter Textron Canada has been awarded its first contract with the U. S. Army. The Mirabel-based firm will build 102 commercial helicopters for use in training. "These orders, combined with the Canadian Forces program, give us a solid three-year horizon," a company spokesman said, alluding to a \$700 million contract with the Canadian Forces.

Bell has just begun building 206-B Jet Rangers, recalling staff for a five-day week after a year of four-day weeks. The Mirabel plant, which employs 1,150, opened in 1985. It can produce about 150 commercial helicopters a year.

## **BUSINESS BRIEFS**



### **Canam Manac Signs a Contract in the U.S.**

Canam Steel of Point of Rocks, Maryland, a unit of the Canam Manac Group of Québec, is to fabricate metal structural components for the new BMW car plant in Greer, South Carolina, in conjunction with Kline Iron & Co. of Columbia, SC. The contract is valued at about \$2.5 million.

### **Telelobe Wins Contract from International Telecom Group**

Telelobe Canada Inc. of Montréal signed a long-term master agreement to provide transit facilities for the growing telecommunications traffic between two of the world's major business centers, Europe and Asia. The deal is expected to be worth several million dollars in revenues for Telelobe over the next 25 years.

Telelobe was selected along with other North American international carriers to handle transit traffic for the Multilateral Initiative, a recently formed users' group that brings together major telecommunications companies in Asia, Europe and Latin America.

Under the agreement, which takes effect immediately, Telelobe will provide digital interconnection between two fiber optic cables, TPC-4 on Canada's west coast and TAT-9 on the east coast. In all, Telelobe Canada's network provides access to 13 cable systems in the Atlantic, Pacific and Caribbean regions, and will eventually include one of the world's most advanced fiber optic links, CANTAT-3.

Telelobe is the exclusive Canadian provider of international telecommunications services with all countries other than the United States.

### **Quebecor Printing Buys Plants from Arcata Corp.**

Quebecor Printing announced that its wholly-owned U.S. subsidiary has finalized the acquisition of 3 Arcata Corp. plants engaged in magazine, catalogue and commercial printing. The plants are located in Buffalo, NY, Nashville and Clarksville, TN. Their combined operations generate annual gross sales of US\$200 million and employ approximately 2,400 people.

Among the plants' major customers are Reader's Digest, National Enquirer, Time Warner, American Auto Association, Harlequin

Enterprises and various magazines published by Hachette. The purchase price is US\$84.5 million, subject to post-closing adjustments.

In addition, Quebecor Printing has acquired a 3-year option to buy Arcata's remaining book printing business.

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# CULTURE NOTES

## Montréal Puppet Theater in Sunshine State

Montréal's Théâtre Sans Fil will be presenting the J.R.R. Tolkien classic *The Hobbit* at three Florida locations this month: at the Florida Theater in Jacksonville on May 7, at the Coral Springs City Center Theater on May 8, and at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in West Palm Beach on May 9 and 10.

*The Hobbit* chronicles the adventures of Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit whose quiet and comfortable life is disrupted when he gets

drafted into a perilous treasure hunt. The Théâtre Sans Fil's version of the "The Hobbit", first produced in 1979, is a fantasy for family audiences, 10 years and up.

Théâtre Sans Fil -- their name means "theater without strings" -- is a puppet company which specializes in giant puppets manipulated by visible actors. Established in 1971, the troupe has toured the U.S. and Canada extensively and has done stints in Europe and Asia.

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## *Léolo* Opens Commercially in U.S., Featured at Festival in Atlanta

Jean-Claude Lauzon's second feature film, *Léolo*, opened commercially in the U.S. on April 2 and was greeted, for the most part, with outstanding reviews.

In a round-up review of several films about childhood, *Time* magazine said, "Hollywood can still spin a cute kids' fable, but a film from Québec gets the magic and fear right...For a movie that worms inside a child's hopes and fears, that understands how kids can be both shaped by their family and in righteous rebellion against it, you should see -- immediately -- *Léolo*." The critic called the film "beautiful" and a "boldly voluptuous" tale.

*The New York Times* had reviewed the film when it was shown at last year's New York Film Festival and ran the review again in its April 2 edition. The film was called "bracingly original" with a "fluid, unusual style." Mr. Lauzon was profiled in a separate article in the paper's Arts & Leisure section on March 28.

A short review in *Vogue's* March issue noted the film's "compelling authority" and found its "sensibility markedly literary."

*Léolo* will be featured at the Atlanta Film and Video Festival on May 17 at 8:00 p.m. at Phipps Plaza.

### 14th Montréal Jazz Fest: Lineup of Big Names

New York's Village Voice, reviewing the Montréal International Jazz Festival, recently said, "In 10 days, one can hear what one gets in New York in an entire year." The Jazzfest runs from July 1 to 11. Over 2,000 musicians will perform at 350 shows at 15 different venues, André Ménard, head of programming told the press.

American pianists Herbie Hancock, Ellis Marsalis and Marcus Roberts have confirmed their presence as have South African pianist Abdullah Ibrahim and vocalist Bobby McFerrin. Tenor saxophonist Scott Hamilton, alto saxophonist Steve Coleman and the British group John Mayall and the Bluesbreakers will also be on stage. The full program will be announced on May 11.

The official 1993 festival poster and T-shirt feature a handsome black cat, with a halo, playing the sax. It's Saint Cat - as in Rue Sainte-Catherine.

The 100-member Jazz Journalist Association, whose membership is largely American, will hold its annual meeting in Montréal on the second weekend of the festival.

### Cirque du Soleil Acclaimed in New York

Critics from *The New York Times* and *Newsday* hailed Québec's Cirque du Soleil after its official opening in Battery Park City on April 4. In a long article in the April 5 edition, *New York Times'* critic Mel Gussow called the show "breathtaking" and praised the circus' "high-powered style." He also noted the "virtuosity of the individual performers, who bring new dimension to circus arts."

"Dizzying Feats of Fancy," by *Newsday's* Aileen Jacobson, was also laudatory. It called "Saltimbanco," the Cirque's 3rd show in New York City, "dazzlingly and dizzily surreal," a 2½ hour show of "wry humor, gasp-producing feats and fascinating visual and musical design."

Interestingly, both critics opened their reviews by comparing the circus to a Fellini film.

The April issue of *Vanity Fair* also ran a short article on the circus and noted that several celebrities had visited backstage when the show was in California. The magazine complimented the circus' "nifty daredevilry" and quoted two of the show's stars, ringmaster René Bazinet and singer Francine Poitras.

Plan ahead! The Cirque du Soleil will be bringing their Saltimbanco show to Atlanta in November 1993.

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### Marie-Claire Blais at the Belgian Académie Royale de Langue et de Littérature Française

Québec novelist Marie-Claire Blais, winner of the Prix Médicis in 1966 for *Une saison dans la vie d'Emmanuel*, will be inducted into the Académie Royale de Langue et de Littérature française de Belgique on May 8. She will be introduced by Academician Liliane Wouters.

Ms. Blais is to occupy the seat left vacant by the late Duchesse Edmée de la Rochefoucauld. The seat has also been held by Comtesse Anna de Noailles, Gabrielle d'Annunzio, Colette and Jean Cocteau.

Marie-Claire Blais's election to the Belgian Académie as the first non-European to occupy the seat traditionally reserved for a "foreign member" is one of the highest honours an international institution has bestowed on a Québec writer.

The induction ceremony will be held at the close of the first European symposium on Québec studies organized at Université de Liège, in collaboration with the Centre d'Études québécoises at Université de Montréal.

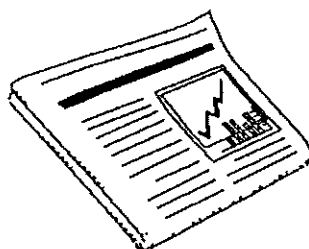


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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 7 - September 19** **The Greek Civilization - Macedonia, Kingdom of Alexander the Great**  
*The treasures of ancient Greece will be on display at the Marché Bonsecours to acquaint you with the fabulous kingdom ruled by Alexander the Great in the 3rd century B.C. (Marché Bonsecours, Old Montréal; info: 514-872-4560)*
- May 14 - September 19** **Images du futur**  
*An international exhibition of new technology related to art and communications, and spotlighting New York City. (Old Port, Montréal; info: 514-849-1612)*
- May 27 - June 12** **Festival de théâtre des Amériques**  
*The most creative drama groups in America and Europe gather to perform in the theaters of Montréal. (Many locations; info: 514-842-0704)*
- June 5 - 26 (Sat.)** **Benson & Hedges International Fireworks Competition**  
**July 4 - August 1 (Sun.)** *Montréal's 9th international fireworks extravaganza with nine countries from the Americas, Europe and Asia competing. (Île Ste-Hélène, Montréal; info: 514-872-6240)*
- June 11 - 13** **Molson Grand Prix of Canada**  
*Renowned "Formula 1" event on the Gilles Villeneuve track. (Île Notre-Dame, Montréal; info: 514-392-4731)*
- July 8 - 18** **Festival d'été international de Québec**  
*People of all ages flock to see close to 400 shows, 800 performers and a varied program of entertainment in the streets and parks of Old Québec. (Québec City; info: 418-692-4540)*
- July 22 - August 1** **Just for Laughs Festival**  
*The world's biggest festival of humor: 300 indoor and outdoor shows, 500 entertainers and half a million spectators - just for laughs! (Montréal; info: 514-845-3155)*

### Québec Update

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